

Benchmark Occupational Exposure Limits (OEL) at a glance - November 2017
Finding the Optimal Balance Between Protection and Feasibility

Benchmark OEL as an 8-hour Time Weighted Average (TWA) - Inhalable Fraction - (ng/m ³)	NO LIMIT	6 000	5 000 *	2 000 *	1 000 *	600	200 *	140	100	20
Origin	Example in Europe was Germany.	Previous OEL in USA since 1970 as inhalable fraction.	Maximum OEL in Europe. Current OEL in Greece and Slovakia.	Value in Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, France, Estonia, Hungary, Lithuania, Malta, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland and UK.	Value in Czech Republic, Denmark, Latvia, Japan, Kazakhstan and Russia.	Adopted in 2017 by US OSHA as OEL and the BeST Recommended Exposure Guideline (REG) as the basis of the Be Responsible Voluntary Product Stewardship Program. Recommended also by the ACSH	Current OEL in Ireland, Poland and Spain.	German TRGS 900	Indicative Value in Finland, lowest in Europe	Proposal of Scientific Committee on Occupational Exposure Limits (SCOEL).
Comments	13 cases of Chronic Beryllium Disease (CBD) over 3 years in Germany including 7 in dental industry which is now a use advised against, and 6 in metal industries. **	CBD cases diagnosed in metal industries.	No reported cases **	5 CBD cases in France over 6 years, questionable based on current diagnostic criteria. 1 case of CBD registered in Austria in the dental industry which is now a use advised against. **	No reported cases in the EU over about 10 years**	Extensive Socio-Economic and Technical feasibility analysis conducted by US OSHA. Selected as REG by BeST based on protection against CBD and technical and economic feasibility.	Not feasible in all industrial processes, and could have severe economic impacts.	There has been no OEL for over 10 years. Not feasible in all industrial processes and could have severe economic impacts.	Limited activity and processing of Beryllium on the territory. (assembly only) Not feasible in all industrial processes, and could have severe economic impacts.	Proposal, based on sensitisation, which has no health effect, not on CBD, and not technically or economically feasible.

* insofar as OELs in EU are expressed as inhalable fraction in all member states

** As reported to BeST during 2015 survey

ng/m³ = nanograms beryllium per cubic meter of air